

Decade of Wars - For What?



October 7, 2011 is the **10th anniversary of the Afghanistan War**, the longest war in U.S. history.

The War on Terror should have never been declared in response to the 9/11 attacks, **a crime against humanity**.

We could have sought for international cooperation to apprehend the suspects and bring them to trial, which would not take trillion-dollar wars to accomplish.

The 10-year war, so costly in lives and money, has proved that war is NOT the answer.

To date, the United States has spent **more than \$2.5 trillion in borrowed money on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq**, according to Joseph E. Stiglitz, Nobel Prize laureate in Economics. Even if we were to leave Afghanistan and Iraq tomorrow, our war debt would continue to rise for decades. This unconscionable waste of U.S. resources and lives is directly contributing to the catastrophic U.S. financial decline.

The burden of sustaining the wars has fallen heavily on us, the middle- and working-class taxpayers. In 2010, **46.2 million Americans (about 15.1 percent of the population) slipped below the poverty line.** Teachers, police, postal employees and social workers join the ranks of the unemployed. Roads, bridges, schools and libraries crumble or close.

Wars take our money and put it into the hands of arms manufacturers, war profiteers, and private armies. Those in uniform are being used as convenient fronts for the military-industrial complex. And the two wars of aggression have become powerful recruiting tools for future generations of insurgents.

Wars rob our future and the future of our children. Wars are destroying America.

Let's learn the lessons from the lost decade, and commit ourselves to ending the wars.



Rockland Coalition
for Peace & Justice

Join our 464th Peace Vigil to end the wars!
Every Saturday, 1-3 pm, at Rte. 59 & Middletown Rd. in Nanuet, NY
For info: www.rocklandaction.org 10/8/11

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